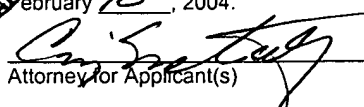


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 10, 2004.

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/694,078  
Applicant : Timothy A. DePottey et al.  
Filed : October 27, 2003  
TC/A.U. : (not yet assigned)  
Examiner : (not yet assigned)  
Docket No. : 14273

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Omitted Items mailed February 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.